



HF Happenings 797

Volume 16, Issue 7, the week of 28 May 2018



Current Regulations remain in force

The publication of the National Radio Frequency Band Plan has created some confusion and a lot of speculation. Here are the facts:

The current regulations remain in force. The frequencies and conditions as published in Annexure I of the 2015 Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations remain in force. View a list of amateur radio frequencies at www.amateurradio.org.za/Annexure%20I.pdf

ICASA has started a process to amend the regulations and bring them in line with the National Frequency Band Plan. A draft will be published in the Government Gazette in due course for comment. Although ICASA Councillor, Peter Zimri, told the SARL that ICASA is fast tracking the new regulations, it will likely be some months before the draft is gazetted for comment. The SARL will monitor the situation.

As far as the 5 MHz is concerned, the allocation is not in the current Addendum I. However, ICASA agreed that all radio licensed amateurs ZR, ZS and ZU may use the frequencies provided they operate with the maximum power of 15 watts eirp. The SARL has made representation to ICASA to consider a limit of 20 dBW or 100 watts. This process will mostly likely only be considered after the draft regulations are published for comment.

There is currently no band plan. Before a band plan for South Africa is considered research should be undertaken what other countries that have 100 kHz of the 5 MHz have agreed on. In some countries additional spot frequencies outside the WRC allocation have been allocated to the amateur service. These should also be considered as they could present some DX opportunities.

If you have views on a band plan, please send them to secretary@sarl.org.za so that an informed recommendation can be made to Council and ultimately voted on electronically.

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

May

31 to 3 June – Wacky Wine Weekend, Robertson

June

1 to 3 – **Ham Radio 2018 in Friedrichshafen**

2 – **West Rand ARC Flea Market**; SAAF Museum Open Day at AFB Swatkovs

4 – World Environmental Day

7 to 9 – Bonitas Comrades Expo

8 – World Oceans Day

8 to 10 – Taste the Helderberg, Somerset West

8 to 17 – Hermanus FynArts Festival

10 – **Hammies Sprint**; the Comrades Marathon

13 to 17 – Port St Johns Umngazi Pondo Pedal

15 – Eid-al-Fitr

15 to 17 – Napier Wine and Patatfees; Calitzdorp Port and Wine Festival

16 – Youth Day; **East Rand ARC Flea Market**; Franschhoek Winter Wines Festival

17 – Father's Day; **World QRP Day**; **closing date for Hammies log sheets**

21 – Winter Solstice

21 to 25 – **SARL Top Band QSO Party**

22 – all schools close; **closing date for the July Radio ZS articles**

22 to 24 – Morgan's Bay Footprint Festival

23 – **Cape Town ARC meeting**

24 – Blairgowrie Collectors Toy Fair at the Blairgowrie Recreation Centre, Randburg

27 to 30 – InniBos Kunstefees, Nelspruit

30 – World Asteroid Day; **end of the SARL Financial year**

28 June to 8 July – the National Arts Festival and Wordfest, Grahamstown

29 June to 1 July – Kirkwood Wildfees

29 June to 8 July – Knysna Oyster Festival

A list of the 60 Metre Allocations World-wide can be found on the front page of the League web site where this article is posted or from the League Secretary. The Secretary received band plans from Bulgaria (5 250.0 - 5 450.0 and 100 W) and Norway (5 260.0 – 5 410.0 and 100 W). An answer from Kenya is still outstanding (5 275.0 – 5 450.0).

Results of the ZS3 Sprint

The ZS3 Sprint was well supported on 20 May 2018. We received 27 logs and of these 3 were used as control logs. The results are as follows for the hour on the air:

1st Woody Collet, ZS3WL 114 points.

2nd Volker Otto, ZS3Y 93 points.

3rd Michelle van der Merwe, ZS3TO 61 points.

The Northern Cape Amateur Radio Club thanks everybody that took part and sent in their logs.

Results of The Awa Valve QSO Party

The May 2018 Valve QSO Party certainly drew a lot of participants, even with the so called "poor" band conditions. On Saturday 5 May there were 20 stations on the AM session, which was a really great turn out. On Sunday 6 May there were 58 stations on SSB and all the divisions were represented. The following are the top scores:

AM

1st Thanie Gibson, ZS4AZ 40 points

2nd Helge Braithwaite, ZS6HB 38 points

3rd Johan van Zijl, ZS4DZ and Barrie Nugent, ZS2NF 6 points each

SSB

1st Thanie Gibson, ZS4AZ 120 points

2nd Frank Martins, ZS1MF 46 points

3rd Barrie Nugent, ZS2NF 28 points

Five logs for the AM session and seven logs for the SSB session were received. ZS0AWA scored 22 points in the AM section and 102 in the SSB section. Congratulations to all for an outstanding effort.

Update Your Amateur Radio Library and Support YOTA-2018

By purchasing a book from the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust online bookstore, you will support JOTA 2018 when 80 young radio amateurs from 34 countries converge on South Africa in August this year. The Trust is working on raising enough funds to supply every participant in YOTA 2018 with an SDR dongle to be used for some of the projects they will carry out during their week in South Africa.

By ordering a book in the next two weeks you can take 10% of the published SARL member price of the book. Visits www.amateurradio.org.za/BOOKS.htm for a complete list of available books and an order form.

WSJT-X Version 1.9.0

The WSJT Development Group is pleased to announce *WSJT-X Version 1.9.0* <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>. If you have been using version 1.8.0, or a candidate release v1.9.0-rc#, you should upgrade at this time. New features and enhancements since Version 1.8.0 are summarized here. http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/New_Features_1.9.0.txt

Low-cost Amateur Radio gear

Hackaday's article on low-cost Amateur Radio gear highlights modern radio kits in general <https://hackaday.com/2018/05/28/ham-radio-on-100-or-less> and the QRP Labs QCX CW Transceiver in particular <https://qrp-labs.com/qcx.html>. KK6MC's contest write-up (see below) noted that there were many more Single Operator entries in the January VHF Contest this year - small, low-power portable stations. The SOTA (Summits on the Air) trend is extending beyond HF to VHF+ contesting and lightweight and low-cost gear is important to that type of operation. Look for many more SOTA/NPOTA-style operations like this. Articles like this are highlighting a new (or lesser-used) door to amateur radio.

Duffey, KK6MC, writes: "The ARRL January VHF Contest results are now available on the ARRL Contest Results website <http://www.arrl.org/contest-results-articles>. Thanks to all who participated, submitted logs and made the contest successful. Despite generally poor to flat conditions, participation was the highest since 2012, the last year the January contest enjoyed widespread sporadic E. The increased participation came from users of the FT8 mode and from SOTA participants who doubled the number of SOP category entrants."

Word to the Wise

Off-by-One - usually used in reference to a call sign. A call sign that has a one-character difference from another. For example, N9ACG is an Off-by-one for the call sign N9ADG.

Club Log QSO statistics

Club Log QSO statistics on a per-mode basis is being made available on the Club Log website <https://g7vir.org/2018/05/raw-data-for-analysing-the-modes-of-qsos-uploaded-to-club-log/>. QSO data are broken out daily, but updated on the Club Log website monthly, starting with QSOs that occurred in 1990. If you're hankering to see how many of what types of QSOs are being uploaded to their site, you'll want this data. The blog discussion includes other tidbits on how the data might be used and caveats about using recent data.

Dielectric materials break down

How and why do dielectric materials break down? Some reasons may involve "nano defects" in the materials <https://www.news.iastate.edu/news/2018/05/07/nanodefects>

Hot Radios

Electronic parts are specified to operate within certain temperature ranges, but usually the top-end is about 125 degrees Celsius. The University of Arkansas and the KTH Royal Institute of Technology of Sweden are working on building a radio that can be used at 500 degrees Celsius <https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/semi-conductors/devices/making-radio-chips-for-hell>

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Somalia, 6O. Baldur, DJ6SI had to change his call sign for his ongoing operation from Somalia to 6OX. He remains active until 6 June on 20 and 30 m. QSL via DJ6SI.

Rwanda, 9X. Harald, DF2WO will be back on the bands as 9X2AW from Kigali between 5 and 24 June on CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY. QSL via M0OXO, LoTW.



Rwanda, 9X. Alan, KE4TA, after a long ride back from Pretoria, is now back in Kigali and will be active as 9X0TA during his spare time. He states, "Things are very busy here right now and likely to get busier in the next few weeks. I will try to get on the air when I get the chance." He should be here for just under 2 ½ years. Activity will be primarily on 20 and 17 metres using 600 W/100 W of power. He does have antennas or antenna + tuner combinations for 80 - 10 metres and 6 m. Modes will be SSB, the digital modes and some CW. Power may be restricted by the Rwandan authorities in accordance with their laws. Radio is a Yaesu FT-991 and antenna will be a Hexbeam on a push up tower. Alan, states, "Noise levels here are extremely high. Please do not be offended if I am not answering your call, I likely cannot hear you." QSL via DIRECT to N4GNR. He will also use LoTW. For more details, pictures and updates (maybe even an operating schedule), visit his web page at www.rwandadx.com

Rwanda, 9X. Members of the Italian DX Team will be active as 9X0T between 27 September and 10 October. Operators mentioned are Mac, JA3USA, Silvano, I2YSB, Vinicio, IK2CIO, Agelo, IK2CKR, Marcello, IK2DIA, Stefano, IK2HKT, Gino, IK2RZP and Alfeo, I1HJT. Pilot stations are Art, IK7JWY (HF) and Sergio, IK0FTA (6 m). Activity will be on 160 - 6 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are CW – 1 826, 3 530, 7 025, 10 115, 14 030, 18 068, 21 030, 24 890 and 28 030 kHz; SSB – 3 775, 7 090, 14 260, 18 128, 21 260, 24 950 and 28 460 kHz; RTTY – 14 084 kHz (only).

The equipment that they will use are 3 x K3s w/KPA-500s into 2 x Spider- beams (5 bands), a Yagi (5 bands), 2 x Quarter Wave verticals for both 80/40 m, a 30 m loop, a 160 m 18-metre-high vertical and 2 x Diamond Loop (RX ant.). QSL via I2YSB direct only. A log search and an OQRS will be available on www.i2ysb.com/idx. Logs will be posted about 1 year after the conclusion of the DXpedition.

All Sponsors and those who requests a direct QSL will have their QSOs uploaded to LoTW. The uploading of contacts requested will be done at the end of the DXpedition. These will be done in batches as they process cards. They will try weekly.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Sao Tome and Principe, S9. David, EB7DX plans to operate holiday-style from 1 to 9 June as S9ZZ from Sao Tome Island (AF-023). He will be active on 40 – 6 m on SSB, RTTY, FT8 and CW. QSL via EB7DX (direct), ClubLog OQRS. <http://eb7dx.com/oqrs/> and <http://lazydxers.com/saotome2018/>



Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 28 May to 4 June 2018

QRP ARCI Hootowl Shootout

00:00 - 01:00 UTC 28 May

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent; Bonus: 5 000 points if you operate portable using battery power and a temporary antenna

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult: >5 W = x 1, 1 - 5 W = x 7, 250 mW – 1 W = x 10, 55 – 250 mW = x 15, <55 mW = x 20

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 11 June 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://www.qrpcontest.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests/>

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 May

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 1 June 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 30 May and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 31 May

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: Each call once
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 2 June 2018
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>
 NCCC RTTY Sprint
 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 1 June
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: RTTY
 Bands: (see rules)
 Classes: (none)
 Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 3 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint
 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 1 June
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: (see rules)
 Classes: (none)
 Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 3 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest
 19:00 - 19:29 UTC 1 June (40 m) and 19:30 - 19:59 UTC 1 June (80 m)
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40 m
 Classes: Single Op
 Exchange: HACWG Members: RST and membership no; non-Members: RST and NM
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 16 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: ha3kna@tolna.net
 Mail logs to: Radio Club, 7100 Szekszard, Rakoczi u. 16., Hungary

Find rules at: <http://radioamator.honlapep-ites.hu/?p=1280>

PVRC Reunion
 00:00 - 01:59 UTC and 20:00 - 22:00 UTC 2 June and 12:00 - 13:59 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: PVRC Members
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op – low or high
 Max power: High: >100 watts; Low: 100 watts
 Exchange: PVRC Member: 1st year of membership, name, state, province or country and call sign when joined PVRC; non-Member: name and state, province or country
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with W3GRF, W4KFC or W3AU; 1 point per QSO with PVRC members
 Multipliers: Each PVRC member state, DC, province, country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 18 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: tshoppa@gmail.com
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://pvrc.org/reunion/reunion.htm>

10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest
 00:00 UTC 2 June to 24:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: PSK31
 Bands: 10 m Only
 Classes: High Power; Low Power; QRP; Club
 Max power: HP: 100 watts; LP: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts; Club: 100 watts
 Exchange: Name, state, province or country and organization membership numbers
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 11 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: tentencontest@ten-ten.org
 Upload log at: <http://www.hamclubs.info/scorer/>
 Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645, USA
 Find rules at: <http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-schedule/2-un-categorised/51-open-season-rules>

DigiFest
 04:00 - 12:00 UTC and 20:00 UTC 2 June to 04:00 UTC 3 June and 12:00 - 20:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY75, BPSK63, MFSK16, HELLSCHREIBER, OLIVIA
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: SOAB, All Modes - 8 or 24 - QRP, low or high; SOAB, Single Mode - 8 or 24 - low or high; Single Op Single Band, All Modes - 8 or 24; Multi-Op Single Transmitter
 Max power: High: 1 000 watts; Low: 100 watts; QRP: 10 watts
 Exchange: RST and 4-character grid square
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 1 QSO point per km between stations
 Multipliers: Each grid square once
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 10 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: digifest_robot@mixw.net
 Upload log at: http://mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/digifest_log.php
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/rulese.html>

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
 0600Z-0629Z 2 June and 0630Z-0659Z 2 June and 0700Z-0729Z 2 June and 0730Z-0800Z 2 June
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 40, 20 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST, serial no and suffix of previous QSO ("QRP" for 1st QSO)
 Work stations: Once per band per period
 QSO Points: 1 point per km
 Multipliers: 1 point per new station worked on each band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total multiplier points
 Submit logs by: 9 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: ru-grp-club@mail.ru
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://grp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng>

SEANET Contest
 12:00 UTC 2 June to 12:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: Southeast Asia/Oceania
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: SEANET: Single Op - CW, SSB and mixed; non-SEANET: Single Op; M/S
 Exchange: RS(T) and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: SEANET: 1 point per QSO; non-SEANET: 1 point per QSO with SEANET station; Multipliers: SEANET: Each DXCC country once per band; non-SEANET: Each SEANET DXCC country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 3 July 2018
 E-mail logs to: seanet2018-contest@orari.or.id
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <https://seanet2018.orari.or.id/contest.php>

Kentucky QSO Party
 14:00 UTC, June 2 to 02:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
 Classes: Fixed Single Op - QRP, low or high
 Fixed Multi-Op - QRP, low or high
 Mobile - QRP, low or high
 Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: KY: RS(T) and county; non-KY: RS(T) and state, province or DX
 Work stations: Once per band per mode per county
 QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW QSO; 2 points per Digital QSO; Bonus Points: 100 points per QSO with W4NJA
 Multipliers: KY Stations: Each KY county, state, province, DXCC entity once; non-KY Stations: Each KY county once
 Power: HP = x 1, LP = x 2, QRP = x 3
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults x power mult) and bonus points
 Submit logs by: 23 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: logs@kyqsoparty.org
 Mail logs to: Paul K. Smith, ND4X, PO Box 9, Calvert City, KY 42029-0009, USA
 Find rules at: <http://www.kyqsoparty.org/rules/>

Dutch Kingdom Contest
 15:00 UTC 2 June to 15:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
 Classes: Single Op Single Transmitter - CW, SSB and mixed - low or high; Multi-Single - CW, SSB and mixed - low; Multi-Multi - CW, SSB and mixed - high; Novice - CW, SSB and mixed - 25 W; SWL
 Max power: Dutch HP: >100 watts; Dutch LP: 100 watts; non-Dutch HP: >200 watts; non-Dutch LP: 200 watts
 Exchange: RS(T) and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (see rules)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 10 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: www.dkars.nl
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://dkars.nl/index.php?page=rules>

IARU Region 1 CW Field Day
 15:00 UTC 2 June to 14:59 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: Europe
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: (see your national society rules)
 Exchange: RST and serial no
 Submit logs by: 18 June 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: <http://www.darc.de/der-club/refer-ate/conteste/iaru-region-1-fieldday/logupload/cw/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <https://www.darc.de/der-club/refer-ate/conteste/iaru-region-1-fieldday/en/>

RSGB National Field Day
 15:00 UTC 2 June to 15:00 UTC 3 June
 Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Fixed; Portable - QRP or low; Assisted Portable
 Max power: non-QRP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and serial no
 QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with fixed EU stations; 3 points per QSO with fixed non-EU stations; 4 points per QSO with portable/mobile EU stations; 6 points per QSO with portable/mobile non-EU stations; Double QSO points on 160 m and 10 m
 Multipliers: DXCC entities once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 8 June 2018
 Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/rnfd.shtml>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data
 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 4 June
 Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: United Kingdom
 Mode: RTTY, PSK
 Bands: 80 m Only
 Classes: (none)
 Exchange: RST and serial no
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: (see rules)
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 5 June 2018
 Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/r80_mcc.shtml

Major Meteor Showers in 2018

Tom, LA4LN, has asked that I include information about the major meteor showers during the year in the HF Happenings Calendar – “Some of us crazy radio amateurs use these showers to reflect our VHF signals far away for exotic contacts.”

Major Meteor Showers in 2018				
Shower	Radiant and direction	Morning of maximum	Best hourly rate	Parent
Quadrantid*	Draco (NE)	4 January	60 - 100	2003 EH ₁
Lyrid	Lyra (E)	22 April	10 - 20	Thatcher (1861 I)
Eta Aquariid*	Aquarius (E)	6 May	20 - 60	1P/Halley
Delta Aquariid*	Aquarius (S)	19 July	20	96P/Machholz
Perseid	Perseus (NE)	13 August	90	109P/Swift-Tuttle
Orionid*	Orion (SE)	21 October	10 - 20	1P/Halley
Southern Taurid	Taurus (S)	5 November	10 - 20	2P/Encke
Leonid*	Leo (E)	18 November	10 - 20	55P/Tempel-Tuttle
Geminid	Gemini (S)	14 December	100 - 120	3200 Phaethon
Ursid*	Ursa Minor (N)	22 December	10	8P/Tuttle

* Strong moonlight will interfere with these showers.

The table above is from www.skyandtelescope.com/astronomy-news/best-bet-meteor-showers-for-2018/. That web page also includes some descriptions of meteors and meteor showers. The footnote about

the Moon in the table can be deleted, this has only relevance for viewing the meteor showers, we radio amateurs are mainly interested in sitting in our shack making contacts via these meteor showers and we have no time watching them in the sky.

Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 5 June
Phone Fray 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 6 June
CWops Mini-CWT Test 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 6 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 7 June
NRAU 10 m Activity Contest 17:00 - 18:00 UTC (CW) and 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB) and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC (Dig) 7 June
SKCC Sprint Europe 19:00 - 21:00 UTC 7 June
NCCC RTTY Sprint 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 8 June
NCCC Sprint 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 8 June
DRCG WW RTTY Contest 00:00 - 07:59 UTC and 16:00 - 23:59 UTC 9 June and 08:00 - 15:59 UTC 10 June
VK Shires Contest 06:00 UTC 9 June to 06:00 UTC 10 June
Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, 11:00 - 13:00 UTC 9 June
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 12:00 UTC 9 June to 24:00 UTC 10 June
Portugal Day Contest 12:00 UTC 9 June to 12:00 UTC 10 June
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest 15:00 UTC 9 June to 15:00 UTC 10 June
REF DDFM 6 m Contest 16:00 UTC 9 June to 16:00 UTC 10 June
ARRL June VHF Contest 18:00 UTC 9 June to 02:59 UTC 11 June
Cookie Crumble QRP Contest 17:00 - 22:00 UTC 10 June
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 11 June

2018 IARU HF World Championship Contest

The 2018 IARU HF World Championship Contest takes place the second full weekend of July, beginning at 12:00 UTC on Saturday 14 July and ending at 12:00 UTC on Sunday 15 July 2018. Both Single and Multi-operator stations may operate the entire 24-hour period. All licensed amateurs worldwide are eligible to participate in this contest.

The objective of this contest is to contact as many other amateurs as possible, especially IARU member society HQ stations, around the world using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metre bands. Multipliers are the total number of ITU zones plus IARU Member Society HQ stations worked on each band (not mode). Thus, your Society's HQ stations participation is very important for the multipliers, e.g. ZS0HQ or ZS9HQ. IARU officials represent a maximum of four multipliers per band (AC, R1, R2 and R3).

You can find the complete rules at www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter